URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BURGESS HILL

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the Chairman and Members of the Burgess Hill Urban District Council.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year

The Minister of Health has requested that interim reports only should be submitted for the year 1942, and should be confined to essential matters which have affected the public health during the year. This procedure has, therefore, been adopted.

The Crude Death Rate is 14.19 as compared with 15.13 for the previous year and with 11.6 for England and Wales. The Infantile Mortality Rate is 57.85.

No deaths occurred from Typhoid Fever, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles or Whooping Cough.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

There was no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year, and no case of Diphtheria was notified.

Since the beginning of 1940, when over 90 per cent of the children 1 to 15 years of age have beem immunised, no cases of Diphtheria have been notified.

Every effort was made during the year to persuade parents to accept immunisation for their children and 139 were immunised and 278 Schick tested. At the end of the year in the 1 to 5 years of age group ninety-five per cent were immunised and in the 5 to 15 years group the percentage was ninety-six.

Details relating to the administration of the scheme were given in my report for 1941 and I only wish to state that a card is made out for every child, whether immunised or not, full particulars being entered thereon. The district nurses have charge of the cards of the under five children in their area and the headteachers of those of the children attending their schools. These cards are collected and checked in this office every year so that the figures given are as accurate as is possible.

Every child is Schick tested by Dr. Duke, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, three to six months after the second injection (A.P.T. ·3 c.cs and ·5 c.cs. being the prophylactic used) and children are again tested when they come to school. I consider the Schick

test to be an essential part of the scheme as a parent who has accepted immunisation for her child deserves to be assured that the immunisation has been successful and the only means of giving that information is by performing a Schick test.

I am extremely indebted to Dr. Duke, without whose initiative and drive such excellent results would not have materialised. All testing and the majority of the inoculations were carried out by him.

I also wish to record my sincere thanks for their co-operation to the general practitioners, the district nurse, the headteachers and in particular to Miss Dean, a voluntary helper attached to the Red Cross Society, who has devoted considerable time and energy interviewing parents and making arrangements for the inoculations.

Nurse's Area - Children 1 - 5 years of age.	Percentage.
Burgess Hill	95
Elementary Schools.	
Junction Road	98
London Road Senior	95
London Road Junior and Infants	93

SCABIES.

Although Scabies was not a notifiable disease in 1942 general practitioners were informed by letter of the facilities available for treatment by the Council and it was suggested that this department be informed of all cases so that adequate treatment could be carried out. It has been found that home treatment of this disease cannot be carried out satisfactorily and if the public health department is not kept informed of new cases, other cases among the contacts frequently occur. The general practitioners co-operated extremely well and when a case occurred treatment was carried out at the Sick Bay for evacuated children or at the Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital or at the Cleansing Centre for the local population. All contacts were seen by Dr. Duke, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, or by your Medical Officer of Health. Those found to be infected received two treatments on successive days and those who appeared to be clear received one prophylactic treatment.

In addition a search was made for cases among the school children, the hands of several hundreds of those being examined for

the presence of burrows and quite a number of cases were unearthed in this way. Diagnosis is made by the aid of the magnifying glass and microscope. By demonstrating the live mite under the microscope to the mother it was found that she was only too willing to co-operate fully by bringing the remaining contacts for an examination. I strongly commend this method to other Medical Officers of Health who have not tried it.

Fifty-six cases came to the notice of the department, 27 being evacuee children and 29 local children and adults.

Although the general practitioners had co-operated by voluntarily notifying cases it was considered that the disease could be dealt with more satisfactorily if it were made compulsorily notifiable and the general practitioners would then receive a fee for each notification. Application was therefore made by the Council to the Ministry of Health to make an Order. This was sanctioned and made early in 1943.

HOUSING.

Since the beginning of the war very little repair work to houses has been carried out owing to the shortage of labour and restrictions on the provision of material. It will, therefore, be obvious that housing conditions have deteriorated during the past four years which will entail a considerable amount of work when conditions permit.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Constant supervision of the food trade has been maintained throughout the year involving 380 visits to butchers shops, food shops bakehouses and dairy premises.

I am indebted to Mr. Sayers, the Sanitary Inspector, for his co-operation in the administration of the Health Services and to the other members of the Staff and in particular to Miss Everson, my Chief Clerk.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the consideration, support and assistant I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. B. Stott

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Summary of Statistics for the Year 1942.

Area of District in acres	2,024
Population estimated to middle of year	7,750
Rateable value	£59,280
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£235.
Density of Population (persons per acre)	3.8
Number of Houses	2,250
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.61
Death Rate per 1,000 population	14.19
Infantile Mortality Rate	57.85

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BURGESS HILL URBAN DISTRICT.

	Cause of Death.	Males:	Females
1.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid fevers	-	-
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	1	-
3.	Scarlet Fever	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough	-	-
5.	Diphtheria	-	-
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	2
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	1	-
8.	Syphilitic diseases	1	-
9.	Influenza	-	-
10.	Measles	-	-
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis ...	-	-
12.	Acute inf. encephalitis	-	-
13.	Cancer of b.cav and oesoph. (male) uterus (female)	-	2
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	5	1
15.	Cancer of breast	-	2
16.	Cancer of all other sites	6	6
17.	Diabetes	-	1
18.	Intra-cran. vasc. lesions	5	6
19.	Heart disease	20	15
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	-	1
21.	Bronchitis	1	3
22.	Pneumonia	4	3
23.	Other respiratory diseases	-	-
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	-	1
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	-
26.	Appendicitis	-	1
27.	Other digestive diseases	-	-
28.	Nephritis	2	3
29.	Puerperal and post-abor. sepsis	-	-
30.	Other maternal causes	-	-
31.	Premature birth	-	1
32.	Con.mal birth inj. infant. dis.	1	1
33.	Suicide	-	-
34.	Road traffic accidents	3	1
35.	Other violent causes	1	-
36.	All other causes	5	4
		56	54

BIRTH RATE, CIVILIAN DEATH RATE AND ANNUAL ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the Year 1942 (Provisional Figures)

	Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population.		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population.								Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	
	Live Births	Still Births	All causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Small-pox	Measles	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (Under 2 years)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	15.8	0.54	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.09	-	0.01	5.2	49
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	17.3	0.66	13.3	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.06	0.09	-	0.02	7.5	59
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census) ...	18.4	0.62	12.1	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.04	0.10	-	0.01	4.8	46
London	14.0	0.48	13.9	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.07	-	0.01	8.6	60
Burgess Hill Urban District	15.61	0.13	14.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	57.85

	Puerperal Sepsis	Others	Total
The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales are as follows:- per 1,000 Total Births	0.42	1.59	2.01
The Maternal Mortality Rates for the Burgess Hill Urban District are as follows:-	Nil	Nil	Nil

INSPECTIONS.

Housing:	Under Public Health Acts		
	Primary Visits	145	
	Re-visits	919	1064
Public Health Acts:	Infectious Disease ...	196	
	Disinfection	10	
	Verminous Premises ...	58	264
Food Premises:	Bakehouses	19	
	Butchers Shops	93	
	Slaughterhouses	25	
	Cowsheds	81	
	Dairies	60	
	Milk Sampling	45	
	Water Sampling	4	
	Grocers	43	
	Miscellaneous	10	380
Trade Premises:	Factories - Mech. Power	13	
	Factories - Non. Mech.	2	
	Petroleum Acts	15	30
Miscellaneous:	Rats and Mice	110	
	Piggeries	16	
	Urinals	14	
	Tents, Vans, Sheds ...	2	
	Civil Defence	540	
	Food Control	193	
	Miscellaneous	71	
	Interviews	276	1222
	Total ...		2960

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply:	Number of Cowkeepers on Register	15
	Approximate number of milch cows in district	270
	Number of inspections	81
	Number of Retailers on Register	12
	Number of Retail Dairies ...	9
	Number of Inspections	60

Licences granted under Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.

Accredited (producers - granted by County Council)	
Tuberculin Tested (Dealers - granted by Local Authority)	2
Pasteurised (Supplementary Dealers - granted by Local Authority)	1
Number of samples taken for Bacteriological Examination.	37
Satisfactory results: 32	
Unsatisfactory: 5	
Number of samples taken for Biological Examination	6

All samples failed to show evidence of tubercular infection.

One sample of pasteurised milk was taken for the phosphate test and was found to be efficiently pasteurised.

Meat Inspection:

Since the introduction of the Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940, meat supplies for the district come from Brighton. One slaughterhouse in Burgess Hill is still licenced and is used for slaughtering animals killed under special licence issued by the Ministry of Food.

Number of Butchers' Shops in district	10
Number of Inspections	93
Number of Animals known to be killed - Pigs ...	28
Number of Animals inspected	28

Meat found to be diseased or unsound:

1 Beast's Head - Tuberculosis	23 lbs.
1 Pr. Beast's Lungs - Abscesses	10 lbs.
1 Pig's Head - Tuberculosis	14 lbs.
1 Pr. Pig's Lungs and Heart - Tuberculosis .	3 lbs.

Unsound Food surrendered:

Article	Amount.
Canned Meat	90 lbs.
Cheese	19 lbs.
Butter	14 lbs.
Jam	31 lbs.
Cereals	44 lbs.
Eggs	61 dozen.
Sausages	5 lbs.
Miscellaneous canned goods	74 tins

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disease	Total	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	6	6	-
Para-typhoid Fever 'B'	1	1	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	-	1
Pneumonia	1	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Measles	6	-	-
Whooping Cough	6	-	-
Totals	22	7	1

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

Disease	Under 1 year	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over	Totals
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	6
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	-	-	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	6
Totals	1	-	1	2	3	8	2	1	3	1	-	-	22

TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY 1942.

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	2	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
45 - 55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	1	3	1	-	2	1	-

THE MID-SUSSEX ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Appended below are details of cases admitted to the Hospital during the year.

Disease	Cuckfield Rural District	Cuckfield Urban District	Burgess Hill Urban District	Other Districts
Diphtheria	2	-	-	-
Diphtheria 'Carrier'	1	-	-	-
Vincent's Angina	3	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	45	4	8	-
Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid 'B')	1	1	-	-
Meningitis Cerebro-spinal	3	-	-	2
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-
Sonne Dysentery	10	3	-	-
Streptococcal Throat	1	1	-	1
Measles	11	1	1	-
Chickenpox	2	-	3	-
Whooping Cough	1	2	-	-
Mumps	4	-	-	-
Acute Adenititis	1	-	-	-
Otitis Media	2	-	-	-
Gonococcal Conjunctivitis	-	1	-	-
Impetigo	2	-	4	-
Scabies	83	8	27	1
Observation Cases	1	-	-	-
Totals	175	22	43	4